AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-2. (Cancelled)

- 3. (previously presented) A wet multiplate clutch according to claim 7, wherein between each two mutually-adjacent ones of said plural groove-free separator plates disposed between each two friction plates arranged adjacent to each other, a thin member is interposed.
- 4. (previously presented) A wet multiplate clutch according to claim 7, wherein each two mutually-adjacent ones of said plural groove-free separator plates disposed between each two friction plates arranged adjacent to each other have been coated at mutually-opposing surfaces thereof.
- 5. (previously presented) A wet multiplate clutch according to claim 7, wherein each two mutually-adjacent ones of said plural groove-free separator plates disposed between each two friction plates arranged adjacent to each other have been machined at mutually-opposing surfaces thereof.
- 6. (previously presented) A wet multiplate clutch according to claim 7, wherein said groove-free separator plates have a thickness of from 0.5 to 1.52 mm per plate.



Application No. 09/940,519 Reply dated November 3, 2003 Response to Office Action dated July 1, 2003

7. (Currently amended) A wet multiplate clutch comprising plural friction plates and plural separator plates that are alternately arranged with the plural friction plates, wherein said separator plates are groove-free separator plates, wherein between each two friction plates arranged adjacent to each other, at least two of the plural groove-free separator plates are disposed separably from each other, and wherein the at least two separator plates are free to completely separate from each other and can freely move independently of each other.

8-12. (cancelled)